



For details, art or photos about FLICKERS media releases, contact Matthew Connolly, [mconnolly439@film-festival.org](mailto:mconnolly439@film-festival.org)

**Photos Available Upon Request:**

## **RIIFF GOES TO THE OSCARS®**

***Flickers: Rhode Island International Film Festival hosts retrospective screenings of Oscar shorts at venues throughout the state of Rhode Island.***

**PROVIDENCE, R.I.** (February 12, 2013) – There are literally thousands of film festivals worldwide but only 75 of them have a rather unique accolade: they are nominating Festivals for the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences in the short film division. The **Flickers: Rhode Island International Film Festival** (RIIFF) is one of these 75 Festivals and the only Festival in New England with this distinction.

Every year, the RIIFF kicks off its annual August Festival with an opening night program that salutes the art of the short film. Every year, several of these films have ended up receiving Oscar® nominations. In 2012, five Festival films were nominated with two wins. This year, three films have been nominated with the winner(s) to be announced on Sunday, February 24<sup>th</sup> at the 85<sup>th</sup> Annual Academy Awards.

In celebration of this year's Oscar® nominations, the **Flickers: Rhode Island International Film Festival**, in collaboration with the **RI Film & Television Office**, will be presenting a special collection of Oscar® nominated short films that have screened at RIIFF over the past 17 years. The program called "**RIIFF Goes to the Oscars**," will take place on Monday, February 18<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday February 20<sup>th</sup>.

Since 1998, the Festival has seen 29 of its premieres receive Academy nominations and six awarded the coveted Oscar®.

Going into its vaults, RIIFF will be presenting a retrospective of some of these amazing Oscar® nominees, winners and even films that made the Academy short-list. The program will be hosted at the **Sandywoods Center for the Arts** in Tiverton, **Roger Williams University** in Bristol, the **Rochambeau Library** in Providence, and the **Westerly Public Library**. All screenings will be free to the general public and feature a raffle where attendees will be able to win tickets to this summer's Opening Night Gala and Soirée.

"We are thrilled to have the opportunity to highlight some of our best films from years past. Short film retrospectives are quite rare, so it's wonderful to share some of the world's greatest short films with our local Rhode Island community" said **Shawn Quirk**, Programming Director at Flickers.

Here is the schedule for **RIIFF Goes to the Oscars**®:

Date: **Monday, February 18th**

Location: **Sandywoods Center For the Arts**, 43 Muse Way, Tiverton, RI

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Date: **Wednesday, February 20th**

Location: **Rochambeau Library**, 708 Hope Street, Providence, RI

Time: 4:00 p.m.

Location: **Roger Williams University**, Global Heritage Hall (GH101), Bristol, RI

Hosted by the RWU Film Production Club

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Location: **Westerly Public Library**, 44 Broad Street, Westerly, RI

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Cost: These are all Free Events

This unique selection of short films will be featured in conjunction with Flickers' annual **Oscar® Experience: Providence** event, which is one of 46 parties officially sanctioned by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences that will be held across the country on Oscar Night®.

This year's special **Red Carpet Guests** include: **Anne Conway**, Museum of Work and Culture/RI Historical Society; **Jocelyn Donaghue**, Jamestown Center for the Arts; **Rob George**, I.A.T.S.E., Local 23; **Michael Janusonis**, Arts Writer, Providence Journal; and **Michael Ryan**, Rhode Island Film Collaborative.

**Oscar Experience: Providence** guests may feel like stars themselves from a red carpet entrance photographed by paparazzi, interviews by reporters from ABC6, a welcoming reception celebrating this year's Producer Circle Awards, amazing hors d'oeuvres and beverages, live music, silent auction, a gourmet dinner, unforgettable desserts and of course a screening of the 85<sup>th</sup> Annual Academy Awards. The Academy will provide party guests in Providence the same official program distributed to guests at the Oscar® presentation at the Dolby™ Theatre at Hollywood & Highland Center® in Hollywood.

The Honorary Chairs for the event are **Steven Feinberg**, Executive Director/RI Film & Television Office and **Michael Drywa, Esq.** RIFF Advisory Board President. Hosts for the evening are **Doreen Scanlon** and **Mark Curtis** of ABC 6.

Benefiting **Flickers: Rhode Island International Film Festival**, Providence's Oscar® Experience celebration will be held at **The Vets**, One Avenue of the Arts with doors opening at 6:00 p.m. Tickets are now on sale online at [www.RIFilmFest.org](http://www.RIFilmFest.org) or by calling 401.861.4445. The cost per ticket is \$85. Table discounts are available.

#### **ABOUT FLICKERS:**

The **FLICKERS: Rhode Island International Film Festival (RIIFF)** has secured its place in the global community as the portal for the best in international independent cinema, earning the respect of domestic and foreign filmmakers, filmgoers and trend watchers. This confluence of art and commerce brought together world-class celebrities, award-winning filmmakers, new talent and audience members in record numbers last year. Ranked as one of the top-12 festivals in the United States, **RIIFF** is one of 75 festivals worldwide that is a qualifying festival for the **Academy Awards** through its partnership with the **Academy of Motion Pictures Arts & Sciences**.

For more information about the **FLICKERS: Rhode Island International Film Festival**, running **Aug. 6-11, 2013** at The Vets (formerly Veterans Memorial Auditorium), please visit [www.RIFilmFest.org](http://www.RIFilmFest.org) or call **401.861.4445**.

--30--